

have discussed this with the Senator from North Dakota. We are in the process—the distinguished chairman of the subcommittee, Senator LUGAR, Members on both sides of the aisle, Senator GRASSLEY from Iowa, Senator PRESSLER from South Dakota, the Democratic leader and others on both sides—to see if we cannot come to some agreement by Thursday of next week.

It is my hope we can lay out some process where, first of all, we would try to bring up or at least proceed to the bill we passed one other time. We would have to obtain cloture. That would probably not be invoked.

Then perhaps the Senator from North Dakota could lay down his 1-year extension, and if at that time we should have a bipartisan compromise, we would offer that as a substitute. That is what we have been discussing. I have talked to the Democratic leader two or three times today. I know the farmers are anxious in all parts of the country. We hope we can work it out. It may not be possible to do it that quickly, but we are working on it. Our staffs will continue to work in a bipartisan way, and we hope we can have it done by next Thursday.

Therefore, I feel compelled to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard to the request of the Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. DORGAN. If the Senator will yield for one moment, I understand that, and I hope we can reach a bipartisan compromise on this. I think, to the extent we will move to it and address it next week, that is real progress. I think farmers and others in rural America will be pleased by that, and I hope we can make some significant progress next week on this issue. I thank the Senator from Kansas.

#### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. DOLE. I will just indicate to my colleagues, I know others have planes to catch. I will come back on the floor later. It is quite possible we will be in session on Tuesday and Wednesday of next week for morning business.

I think on Tuesday there will be maybe 3 hours equally divided, on Wednesday 4 hours equally divided, and on Thursday it would be my hope that we could have completed the telecommunications conference by then and have that conference report on the floor; also, that we might have some agreement on the farm legislation, at least on the Senate side, and have that vote on Thursday, and any other votes that may come up. We could have a vote on Thursday of next week. I do not anticipate any votes prior to Thursday. If something should occur so that those votes should become unlikely, we could still be in morning business. But we would notify our colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

Mr. DASCHLE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The minority leader is recognized.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, let me thank the majority leader for that in-

formation. We have had a good discussion about the schedule next week, and I am pleased that there is a possibility that we could address both the farm legislation and the telecommunications bill. So next week could be a very productive week, and hopefully we can continue to ensure that that can be done on Thursday.

#### TRIBUTE TO LYNN TERPSTRA

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, the Democratic Policy Committee's assistant editor, Lynn Terpstra, will retire from the Senate next week. This marks the end of the long and productive career of a vigilant and dedicated congressional staff member.

Hers is a career that spans 25 years, from 1969 to 1996.

Lynn Terpstra began her congressional career in July, 1969, on the staff of Senator George Aiken of Vermont. Her next Senate assignment was on the staff of the Commission on the Operation of the Senate. In February 1977, she brought her quick mind and diligent habits to the Senate Democratic Policy Committee. Her technical skills and her grasp of how to help organize the ever-increasing DPC graphics and publications workload made Lynn an invaluable player on the DPC team.

Lynn Terpstra's keen eye, creative talent and dedicated approach to the work of the Senate's Democratic Policy Committee will be missed. The DPC is grateful for her contribution to our work, and I want to thank Lynn and wish her well in her future endeavors.

I yield the floor.

#### BILL READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 1541

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, after consultation with the distinguished majority leader, Mr. DOLE, I send a bill to the desk and ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be read for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1541) to extend, reform and improve agricultural commodity, trade, conservation, and other programs, and for other purposes.

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I now ask for its second reading.

Mr. NUNN. Mr. President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bill will be read on the next legislative day.

#### UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, given this turn of events, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order on Tuesday, January 30, 1996, for the majority leader or his designee to file a cloture motion with respect to the farm bill to be introduced this evening.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LUGAR. I thank the Chair. I will simply say, parenthetically, this is the farm bill that has been referenced by the majority leader, and cloture will attempt to be obtained on this. I appreciate the procedure of the Senate.

Mr. EXON addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska is recognized.

#### DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL

Mr. EXON. Mr. President, I want to take a moment, if I might, to congratulate the Senator from South Carolina, Senator THURMOND, the chairman of the Armed Services Committee, on which I am pleased to serve, and his counterpart on the Democratic side, Senator Sam NUNN from the State of Georgia. They did an exceptional job in getting finally a defense authorization bill approved that the President said he will sign after vetoing the previous bill.

I thought the President was right in that timeframe when he vetoed the bill. I am not happy completely with the bill, as I outlined earlier in remarks on the Senate floor before the vote. But certainly the Senator from South Carolina and the Senator from Georgia did an admirable job in eliminating some of the most obnoxious parts of the defense authorization bill originally and coming to a successful conclusion today where we have passed it in the U.S. Senate.

#### START II TREATY

Mr. EXON. Mr. President, I want to move on and thank my dear friend and colleague who has just spoken with regard to the START II Treaty. There is nothing that has a better chance for the hope of mankind in the future than the overwhelming approval of the START II Treaty. When it is implemented, it will reduce the number of nuclear warheads both in Russia and the United States of America. I congratulate the ranking member and the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee for a job very well done.

Mr. PELL. Mr. President, if the Senator will yield for a moment, I want to say what a wonderful job the chairman, Mr. HELMS, and my fellow floor manager, Senator LUGAR, have done. I thank the Senator from Nebraska for his kind remarks.

I think this is truly a historic day. I am glad my retirement from the Senate is coming after this and not before.

Mr. EXON. I thank my friend, Senator PELL, so very, very much.

#### TOUGH TALK ON THE FARM BILL IS DOUBLETALK

Mr. EXON. Mr. President, on another matter, very briefly—and I will not tie up the Senate, it will take me 3 or 4 minutes—I want to talk briefly about what I was surprised to see, which I term "Tough Talk on the Farm Bill Is Doubletalk."